

CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Previously presented – now allowed)

A device for reducing sloshing of fuel in a fuel tank of a motor vehicle comprising:

- a) fastening part having, (i), an elongated outer sleeve and, (ii), an elongated inner sleeve contained within the outer sleeve, the sleeves being axially movable with respect to each other;
- b) a plurality of guide elements defined by openings through the outer sleeve along the length thereof;
- c) a plurality of slosh inhibiting parts pivotally connected to the inner sleeve and extending through the openings in the outer sleeve and in contact with the outer sleeve guide elements, whereby longitudinal movement of the sleeves relative to each other causes arcuate movement of the slosh inhibiting parts.

Claim 2-15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (new)

A device for reducing sloshing of fuel in a fuel tank of a motor vehicle comprising: (a) a slosh inhibiting element defining passages of preselected size, through which the volume of fuel flow through the element is controlled; and fastening structure present on the slosh inhibiting element for securing the slosh-inhibiting element within the fuel tank.

Claim 17 (new)

The device as described in claim 16, wherein the slosh-inhibiting element is elongated and mounting structures is present in the vicinity of each end of the element.

Claim 18 (new)

The device as defined in claim 17, wherein one of the mounting structures is fastened to a flange closing the installation opening of the fuel tank.

Claim 19 (new)

The device as defined in claim 17, wherein the slosh-inhabiting structure includes substantially horizontally disposed parts that extend between the mounting structures.

Claim 20 (new)

The device as defined in claim 19, wherein vertically extending stabilizing parts support the horizontal parts at sites between the mounting structures.

Claim 21 (new)

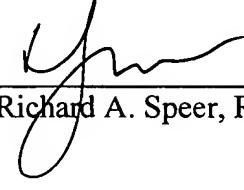
The device as defined in claim 16, wherein the slosh-inhibiting element is manufactured from a material having shape memory.

Claim 22 (new)

The device as defined in claim 16, wherein the slosh-inhibiting element is manufactured from an elastic material.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 3/15/04


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